## OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: BOYD FROM: RILEY

SUBJECT: ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION, K-16

**DATE** 6/22/00 **CC:** FILE

Entrepreneurship education is offered on a limited basis in Mississippi's secondary schools. The Mississippi Department of Education houses the state School-to-Careers office. Funded with federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) dollars, Mississippi's School-to-Careers initiative provides students with school-based and work-based experiences in order to make informed decisions about developing a successful career strategy. Three local School-to-Careers partners (Montgomery County schools, Winona Public Schools and West Tallahatchie) utilize the Rural Entrepreneurship through Action Learning (REAL) curriculum in their workforce training endeavors. Initially a program designed to help rural high schools contribute to the economic development of their communities, REAL now serves youth and adults of all ages in communities of all sizes.

REAL's mission is to help individuals, schools, communities and rural America grow through hands-on entrepreneurship education. REAL's purpose is to prepare youth and adults to be active, self-sufficient, and productive citizens who can contribute to their community's social and economic development. REAL provides a high quality entrepreneurship curriculum and training, supports a national network of educators and member organizations, and advocates for entrepreneurship education.